Building up self-esteem

School shows how it's done

By EMILY CHURCH
Press Staff Writer

At the very least, Rawsonville Elementary School staff members hoped pupils would leave school Wednesday after Self-Esteem Day feeling good about themselves.

At most, educators saw the daylong event as an alternative method to get students to believe in themselves.

"It's an opportunity for children to try things they never had before," Principal Theresa Green said. "Too often they go home and watch television. We're teaching them to take a chance."

Students, wearing red tags to help them find their way to their to miniseminars, could choose from about 50 workshops — from crafts as varied as making Indian dolls to the Japanese art of folding paper to a discussion by Northwest Airlines pilot Larry Smith.

"Part of growing up is exposure, and if you can get exposure to as many things as possible, the more you have to choose from," said Mark Jenkins, one of many parents who volunteered for Wednesday's program.

Jenkins taught the history of tennis.

Smith, whose son is in the first grade, said he taught Wednesday to "let the kids know that with a little hard work they can go where ever their dreams may carry them."

Wednesday's message was clear enough to 7-year-old Tgreea Steels. Self-esteem "means that you can see things that sometimes you can't do, but when you try you can do it," she said.

Basketball players from the Ann Arbor Veterans Wheelchair Team were the highlight of the day for Steele and her classmates in an Indian-doll making class.

Team members spoke briefly to students, before a bout of two-on-two in the gym.

Staff members had been planning for Self-Esteem Day since October, Green said, adding that they hope to make it an annual tradition.

PRESS PHOTO/ JEFF LAWRENCE

Ann Arbor Veterans Wheelchair basketball team members Misty Guard-Allen, left, Bill Prout, with the ball, and Bob Calderon gave a demonstration of their basketball skills Wednesday during Self-Esteem Day at Rawsonville Elementary School.

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cepted the entertainer award.

Brooks also was named top male vocalist and won best song and video of the year for "The Dance," best single for "Friends in Low Places" and top album for "No Fences." He broke the record of five trophies won by Mickey Gilley in 1977 and Freddie Hart in 1972.

Top female vocalist award went to Reba McEntire, who got a standing ovation when she stood tearfully at the microphone and referred to her band members killed in a recent plane crash.

"This is for my eight buddies. I know they are grinnin' up there knowing they had so many friends on Earth," she said. It was her fifth female vocalist "Hat" trophy.

Another emotional moment came when the mother-daughter duo The Judds won the top vocal duet award for the seventh consecutive year. It was the last joint awards show appearance for mother Naomi Judd and daughter Wynonna Judd. They are disbanding because Naomi Judd, 45, has chronic hepatitis.

"I really wanted this chance to say goodbye to the academy," Naomi Judd said, tears streaming down her face.

Brooks said backstage that he was "happy, scared and embarrassed at the same time" about his awards success.

"It scares me. A lot of people win a lot of awards, then you never hear from them again," the balding cowpoke with a black hat, black jeans and black boots told the throng of reporters.

Brooks, 29, dominated country music over the last year on the strength of his self-titled debut album and the follow-up "No Fences." He won the Horizon Award for newcomers and the video award at last October's Country Music Association awards.

He led Wednesday's field with seven nominations but only could win six trophies; "The Dance" and "Friends in Low Places" both were nominated for best song. Perennial favorites Alabama and Vince Gill had five nominations apiece, Alan Jackson had four and Reba McEntire had three.

The best group award went to Shenandoah. Top new female vocalist award went to Shelby Lynne, and new vocal duet or group went to the Nashville, Tenn., quintet Pirates of the Mississippi.

The new male vocalist trophy went to Alan Jackson, who told the audience: "First off, I want to thank Garth Brooks for not being nominated in this category."

Actor Robert Duvall, who won an Oscar for his portrayal of a country entertainer in "Tender Mercies," led a 10-minute tribute to Johnny Cash, winner of the Pioneer Award for career achievement.

An emotional Cash said, "Thanks to my mother, who I lost last month, for being one of the greatest inspirations of my life."

Clint Black, Kathy Mattea and George Strait were hosts of the two-hour show at the Universal Amphitheatre. NBC-TV broadcast it.

reports of sales for mid-April.

WASHINGTON — Criti lined up at a congression hearing to denounce a propose fee on recreational boats. Sev eral Michigan lawmakers say would single our for taxation

FOR THE

Stocks

Stocks of area interest are furnished by Mer Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith Inc., 201 S. Ma St., Ann Arbor. The columns, from left to rig represent the high, low and closing prices.

AT&T	37⅞	35⅞	3
Archive	8½	8¼	
ADP	70⅞	70	7
Chrysler	14	13¾	1
Com-Share	19¼	18¼	1
ConsPow	28½	28⅛	2
DanaCorp	31¾	30⅞	3
DetEd	29	28½	2
Dow Chem	49¾	49⅛	4
FedMogul	15⅞	15½	1
Ford	33¼	32⅝	3
Gelman	8½	8¼	
GM	38⅛	37⅛	3
HousInt	48¾	47	4
JamesRiver	26⅛	25⅛	2
JohnCn	29⅛	28⅞	2
K mart	41½	40	4
KMSI	2	1¾	
Medstat	25¾	24¼	2
NT	34⅜	34	3
Quanex	15⅝	15¼	1
Unisys	5	4¾	

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 2949.50, +19.05

Farm prices

ANDERSON'S OF MAUMEE, OHIO

Corn (shell)	$2.5
Soybeans	$5.
Red wheat	$2.8
White wheat	$2.6
Oats	$1.0

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